

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 01643 271449Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /022 W

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R 271300Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8136

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

CONFIDENTIAL ANKARA 1643

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY TU

SUBJ: FRANCE REPLIES TO TURKISH-CYPRIOT NOTE ON PROPERTY CLAIMS

REF: NICOSIA 0786

1. WE HAVE SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT ADVISABILITY OF USG'S FOLLOWING NICOSIA'S SUGGESTION THAT WE MAKE DEMARCHE TO GOT ALONG LINES APPROACH MADE BY FRENCH EMBASSY HERE.

2. OUR FIRST RESERVATION IS POLITICAL. IT SEEMS TO US THAT RESTITUTION AND/OR COMPENSATION FOR PROPERTY IN TURKISH-HELD AREA OF CYPRUS WILL NOT, AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, BE ACHIEVABLE UNTIL THERE HAS BEEN AGREED SETTLEMENT ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION AMONG THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED. THE USG IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN A PROCESS OF ENCOURAGING THE PARTIES TO WORK TOWARD SUCH A SETTLEMENT; FRANCE IS NOT. WE SHOULD NOT DIVERT THE USE OF OUR CAPITAL HERE IN ANKARA FOR WHAT WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BE A STERILE EXERCISE.

3. SECONDLY, WE HAVE LEGAL RESERVATIONS. WE REPEAT THE RECOMMENDATION MADE IN PARA 5 OF ANKARA 1427. SPECIFICALLY, WE ARE TROUBLED BY THE POSSIBILITY THAT OUR TAKING POSITION THAT TURKEY IS "OCCUPYING POWER" MIGHT RUN COUNTER TO SOME OF THE LEGAL DETERMINATIONS WE HAVE MADE SINCE JULY 20, 1974 AS TO TURKEY'S RIGHTS UNDER ZURICH AND LONDON AGREEMENTS. WE ALSO NOTE THAT TURKS HAVE ALREADY TOLD FRENCH THAT THEY WERE NOT "OCCUPYING POWER."

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PAGE 02 ANKARA 01643 271449Z

4. WE HERE BELIEVE THAT BY OUR GIVING TIMELY NOTIFICATION

TO MFA, AND BY SIMILAR NOTIFICATION TO THE VARIOUS AUTHORITIES
IN CYPRUS IN FORM APPROPRIATE TO EACH CASE, OF AMERICAN
CITIZENS AND INTERESTS IN THE TURKISH-HELD AREA OF CYPRUS
WE HAVE RESERVED OUR POSITION AND THERE IS NO DANGER THAT
"IT MAY GO BY DEFAULT."
BERGUS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PROPERTY WAR CLAIMS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA01643
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750069-1075
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975029/aaaaahcp.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 NICOSIA 0786
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <08 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRANCE REPLIES TO TURKISH-CYPRIOT NOTE ON PROPERTY CLAIMS
TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006